

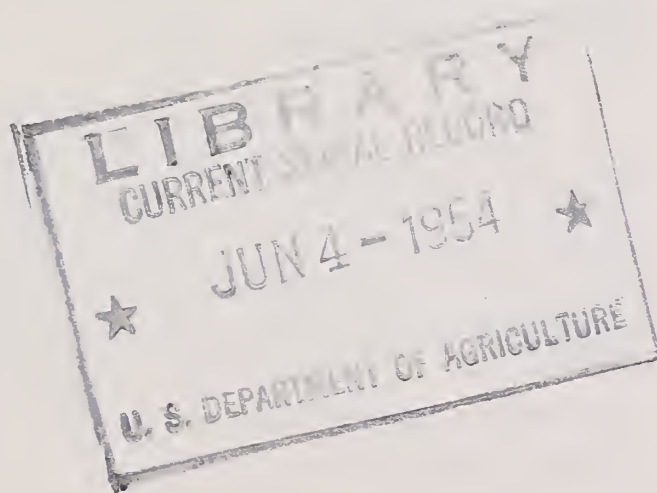
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PEANUT MARKETING QUOTA REFERENDUM

**TUESDAY
DEC. 15, 1953**



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Washington, D. C.

October 1953

Peanut Vote Coming Up

On December 15, 1953, peanut growers will vote in a referendum on peanut marketing quotas for 3 years. Controlling legislation requires the Secretary of Agriculture to proclaim a peanut marketing quota each year unless there is a material increase in export demand or there is a national emergency.

You are eligible to vote if—as owner, landlord, operator, tenant, or sharecropper—you are entitled to share in 1953-crop peanuts produced on a farm having a picked or threshed area of more than 1 acre.

If two-thirds of the votes are favorable, quotas will be in effect for the 1954, 1955, and 1956 crops of peanuts. The Secretary of Agriculture could terminate quotas for one or more of these years, however, if there should be an increased export demand, a national emergency, or if quotas would operate to make less than a normal supply available.

If more than one-third of the voters oppose, quotas will not be in effect for the 1954 peanut crop. In this case, another referendum would be held in the fall of 1954 for the following three peanut crops.

Price Supports

If quotas are approved, the law directs that price supports on the 1954 crop of peanuts be set at 90 percent of parity as of August 1, 1954. Under existing legislation, price support for the 1955 and 1956 crops would be at a rate between 75 and 90 percent of parity—which would depend upon the supply at the beginning of the marketing year.

If peanut marketing quotas are not approved, the law requires that the level of support to cooperators for the 1954 crop be set at 50 percent of parity.

Quota-Allotment Program

For 1954, the Secretary of Agriculture has set a national marketing quota of 673,785 tons. This is the peanut production which the Nation needs from the crop to be produced during the next calendar year.

This national marketing quota has been converted into a national acreage allotment of 1,610,000 acres, which has been apportioned to peanut-producing States on the basis specified by law.

Peanut acreage allotments for individual farms are determined on the basis of the following factors: Past acreage of peanuts (taking into consideration previous acreage allotments for the farm); abnormal conditions affecting acreage; land, labor, and equipment available for the production of peanuts; crop-rotation practices; and soil and other physical factors affecting the production of peanuts.

• • • Quotas apply only to peanuts "picked and threshed."

• • • Marketing penalties do not apply unless more than 1 acre of peanuts on the farm is picked and threshed.

How the Program Works

Under the peanut marketing quota program—

1. If the 1954 peanut acreage on your farm is not greater than the farm allotment, all the peanuts you produce may be marketed without penalty. All such peanuts will be eligible for price support through a Government loan or purchase program.

2. If the 1954 peanut acreage on your farm is larger than the allotment, all the peanuts you market will be subject to a marketing penalty. None of the peanuts you produce on the farm will be eligible for price support.

The basic penalty for the excess peanuts will be 50 percent of the support level. The basic penalty rate is applied to each pound of peanuts marketed in the proportion that the excess acreage is of the total peanut acreage on the farm.

EXAMPLE: If a farm has a peanut allotment of 8 acres and the actual farm acreage is 10 acres, the percentage of excess would be 20 percent (the proportion the 2 acres excess is of the 10 acres total). If the price-support level is 12 cents per pound, the basic penalty rate would be 50

percent of the 12 cents per pound, or 6 cents per pound on the excess peanuts. The penalty rate as applied to each pound of all peanuts marketed (called the converted penalty rate) in this example would be 1.2 cents per pound (20 percent of the basic penalty rate of 6 cents per pound).

Peanut Quota History

Peanut marketing quotas were in effect for the first time for the crops produced in 1941 and 1942. Quotas were not in effect during the years 1943 to 1947 because of the national emergency and the need for oil crops.

In the peanut referendum held in December 1947, covering the 1948, 1949, and 1950 crops, 87.7 percent of the growers voting favored marketing quotas. The operation of the program was terminated by the Secretary for the 1948 crop because of the world shortage of foods, fats, and oils. Marketing quotas were in effect for the 1949 and 1950 peanut crops.

In the referendum held in December 1950, 70.8 percent of the growers voting favored marketing quotas for the 1951, 1952, and 1953 crops, and quotas have been in effect for these 3 years.

This referendum affects you as a peanut grower. You can make your voice heard by casting your ballot, for or against.

You may obtain Further Information about peanut marketing quotas, acreage allotments, and the referendum from the county PMA office or from your farmer-elected PMA COUNTY AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEEMEN.

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Tuesday, December 15, 1953